

SKILLED SUPPORT PERSONNEL TRAINING PROGRAM

FIRE SERVICE PARTNERSHIP WITH SKILLED SUPPORT PERSONNEL

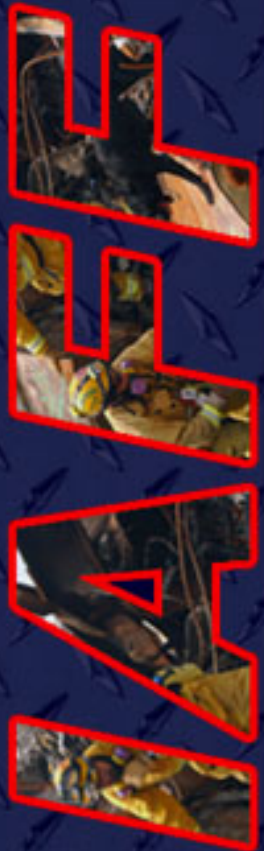
Prepared for
Occupational Safety And Health
Administration

Developed by the
International Association of Fire Fighters
AFL-CIO-CLC

Hazardous Materials Training Department

Program Background

Skilled Support Personnel (SSP's) are often summoned to the scene of fires, building and excavation collapses, man-made and natural disasters when situations confronting fire and rescue departments dictate the need for a technical competence or skills that exceed their capabilities.



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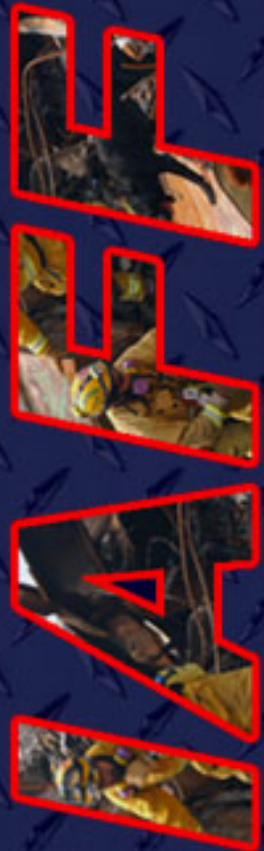




Program Background

- Collaboration between the Fire Service and engineers, architects, heavy equipment operators, welders and cutters, laborers and various other skilled construction and demolition professionals is nothing new.
- We have been working together for many years successfully rescuing civilians, workers and responders alike in all manner of disasters restoring order to our communities

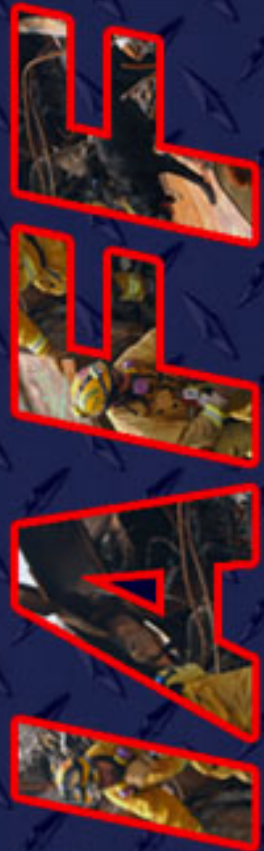




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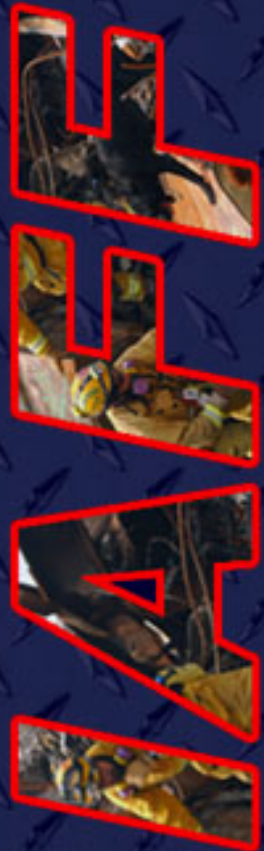
Reality Check

- The events of 9/11 witnessed the unprecedented coming together of fire, rescue, and emergency services forces working together side by side with skilled construction and demolition trades in the greatest, most complex, prolonged, rescue and recovery project.



Program Purpose

- In the name of occupational safety, health and operational efficiency the Fire Service operates within a command framework known as an Incident Management System (IMS).
- This command and control management system assures that:
 - A central, known to all command is established
 - That authority and responsibility are identified
 - Clearly defined goals and objectives
 - Efficient use of resources and personnel
 - That safety and personnel accountability are maintained



Program Objectives

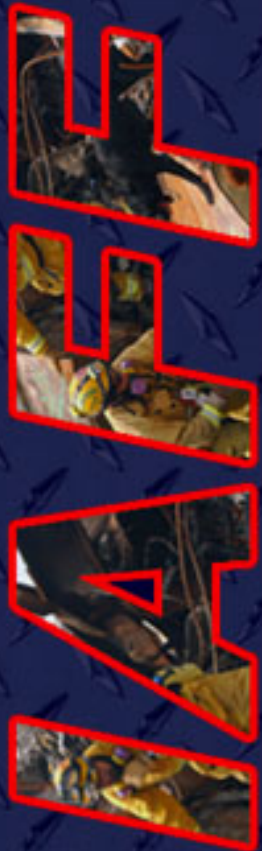
At the conclusion of this module SSP's will understand their key role within an IMS and how to interact safely and efficiently to include:

- Where to report or check in at the scene of an emergency
- Whom should they report to
- What their responsibilities are
- How to protect their health and safety

Program Objectives

Participants will understand:

- How and why an IMS is implemented
- Define the general structure of an ICS/IMS
- Relate how an IMS adjusts to the size and complexity of an incident
- Describe the responsibilities of an SSP
- Recognize key health and safety issues

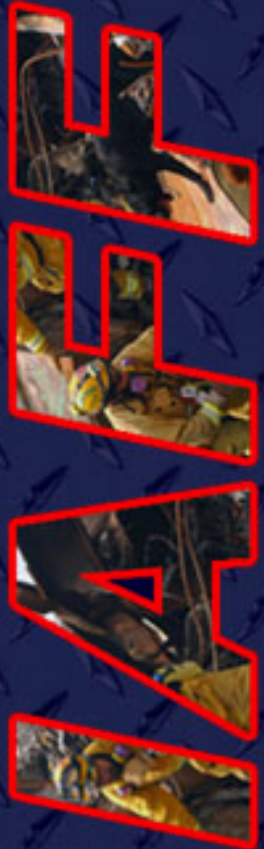


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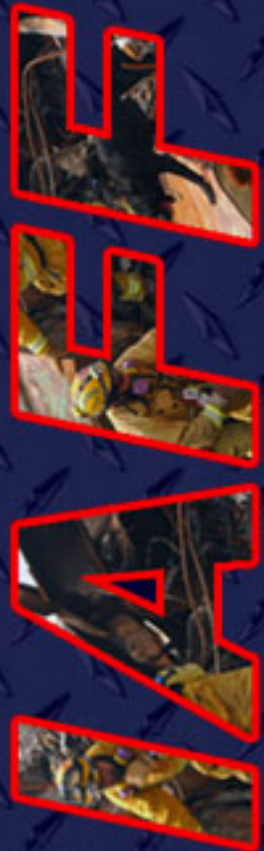
Team Concept

- SSP's should regard and conduct themselves as first responders similar to firefighter and other emergency response personnel.
- Become acclimated and comfortable with their role as a consultant and technician/specialist under emergency conditions often dealing with life or death situations.
- SSP's will become a part of the overall command control system employed by the fire department that assures a singular mission with defined goals and objectives.
- This will include accountability and most importantly the safety of all responders.

The entire time you are on-scene - We are a team!



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The Incident Management System

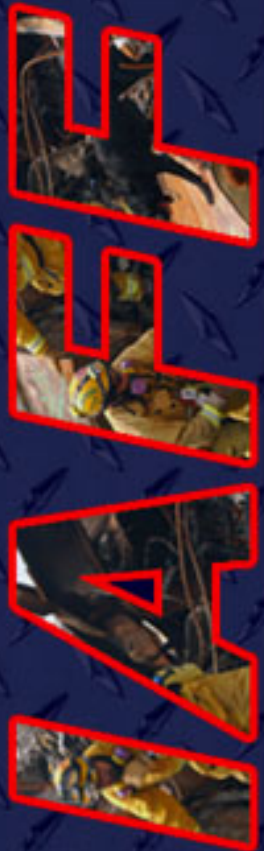
All Emergency Blueprint

- The Fire Service has perfected a universally accepted and employed method for the command and control of dynamic, often chaotic emergency scenes.
- ICS serves as our “Blue Print” to handle every sort of emergency because it:
 - Assures a single operational goal and accompanying tactics
 - Expands and contracts with the size or complexity of the incident
 - Has versatility to adapt to all types of emergencies
 - Contains common standards enabling resources to work together

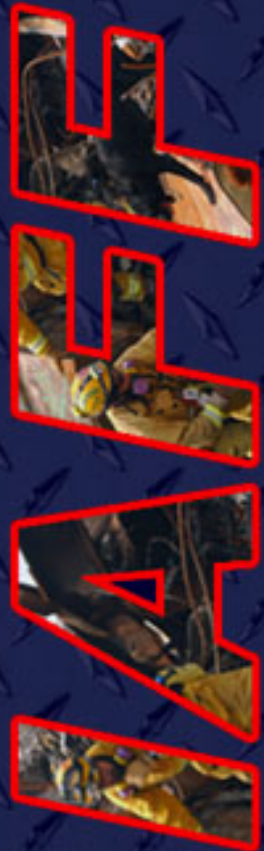
IMS Purpose

IMS assures order and organization of personnel and resources

- **System Solidarity:** Everyone follows the same rules/plan
- **Unity of Command:** Each individual reports to one immediate supervisor
- **Span of Control:** No supervisor oversees more than 4 - 7 persons / units



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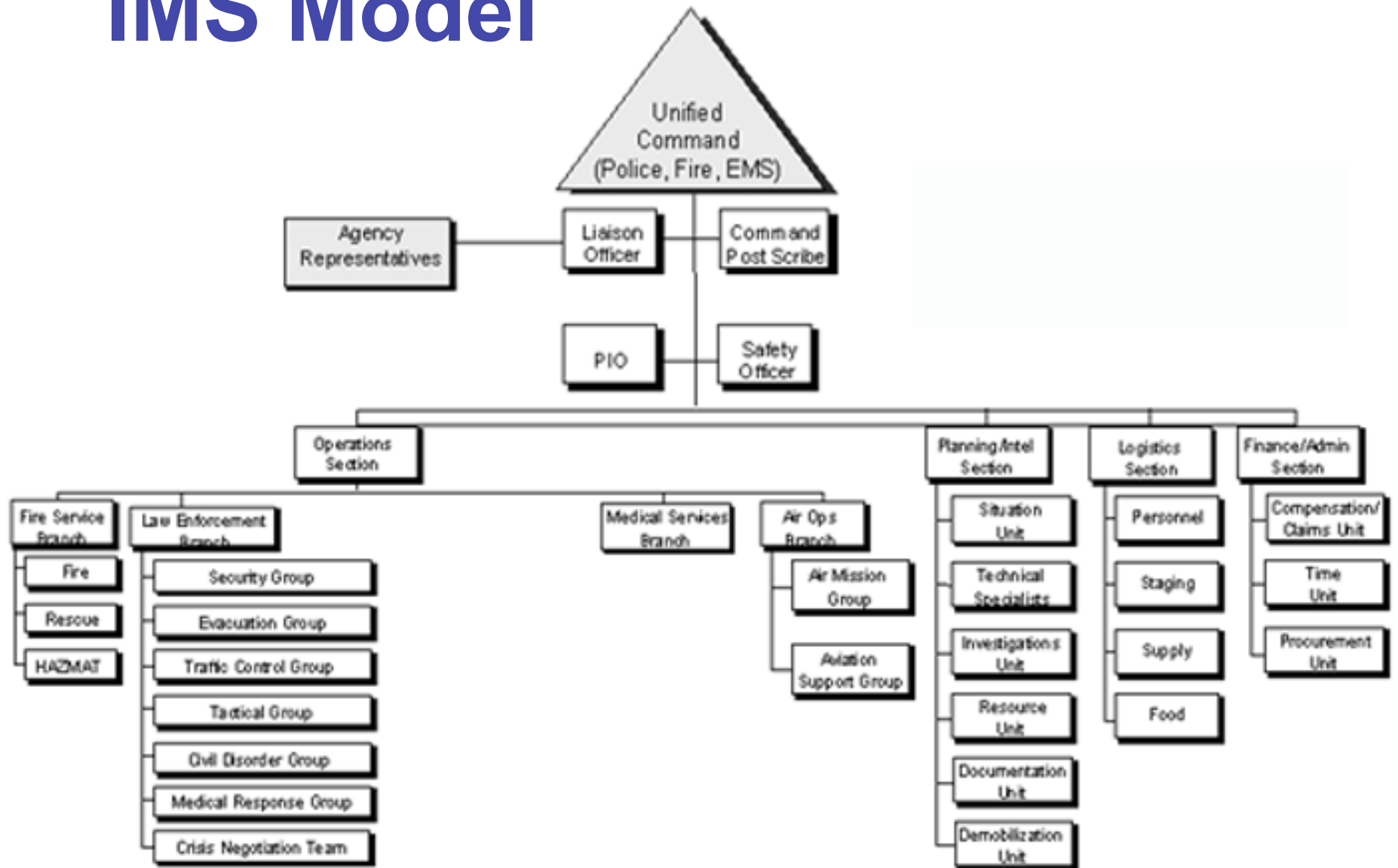


Command Matrix

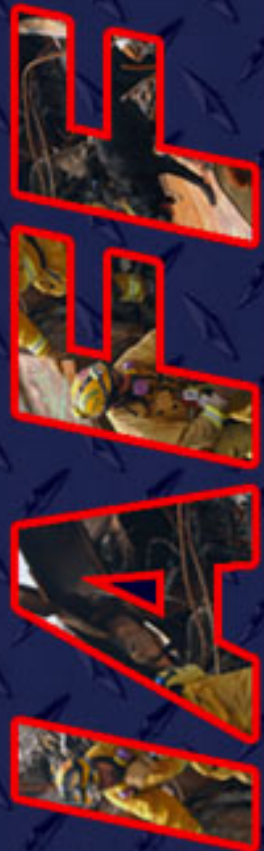
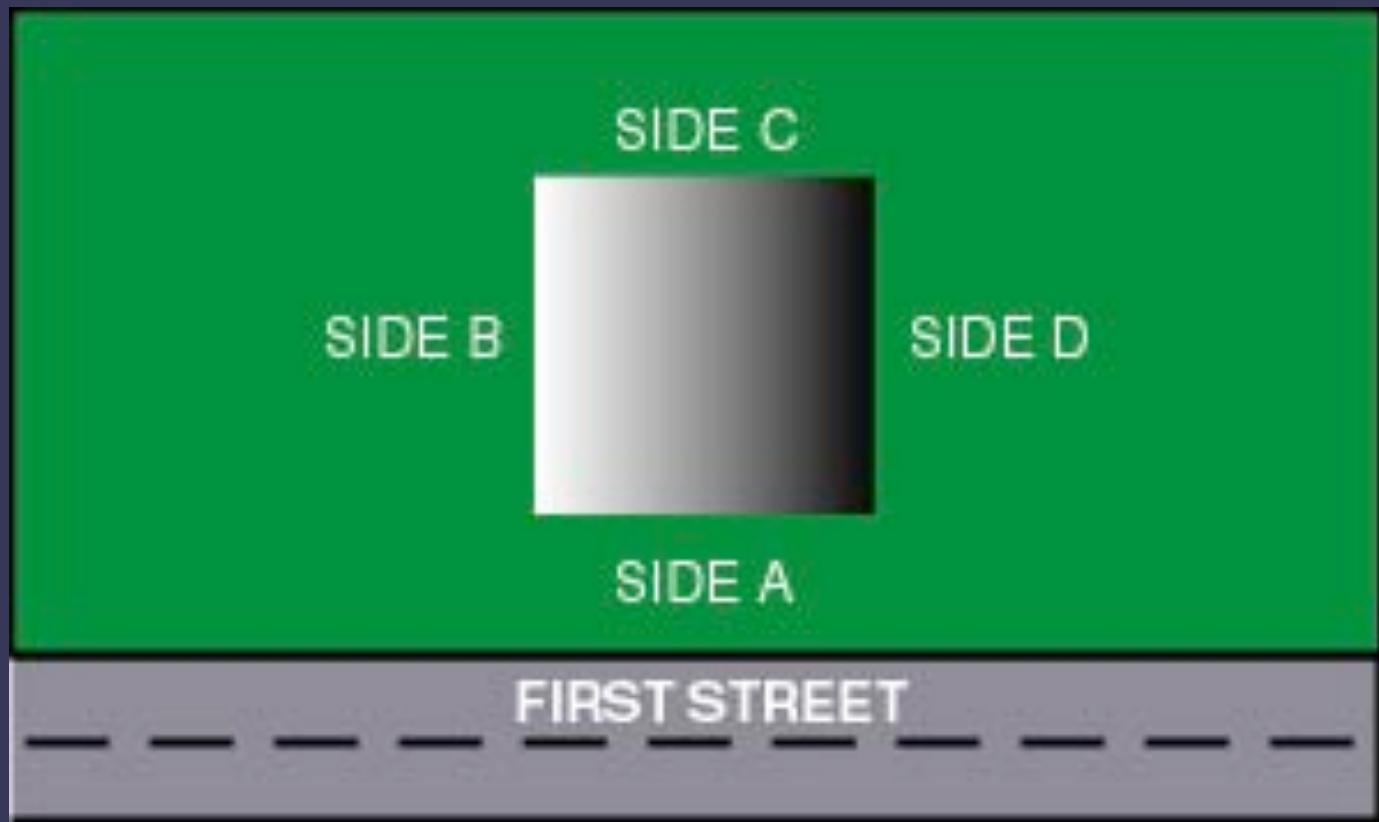
Arriving on-scene firefighters establish a workforce chain of command that provides a single leader assuming full authority command and control providing direction and guidance not unlike management models employed by:

- Government
- Military
- Commerce & Industry
- Sports
- Your workplace supervisor

IMS Model

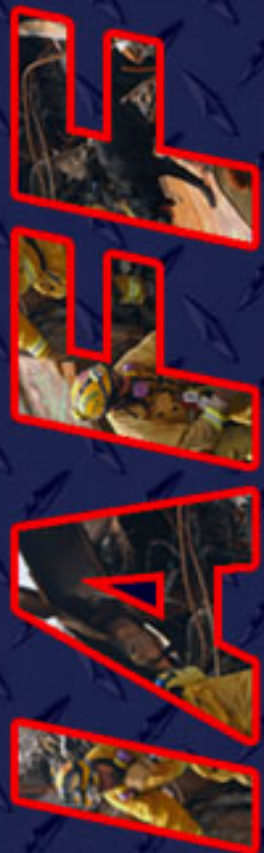
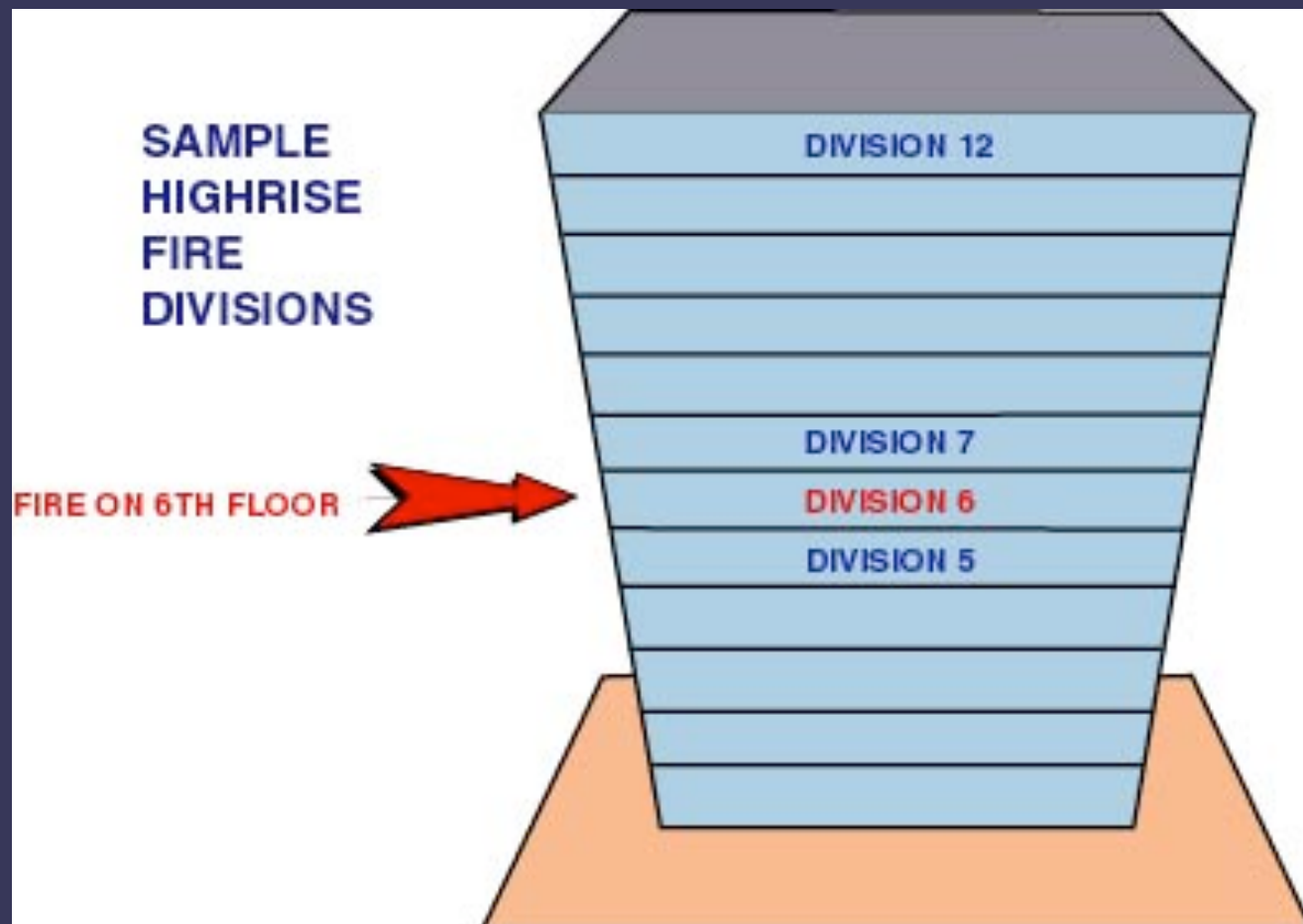


IMS Model

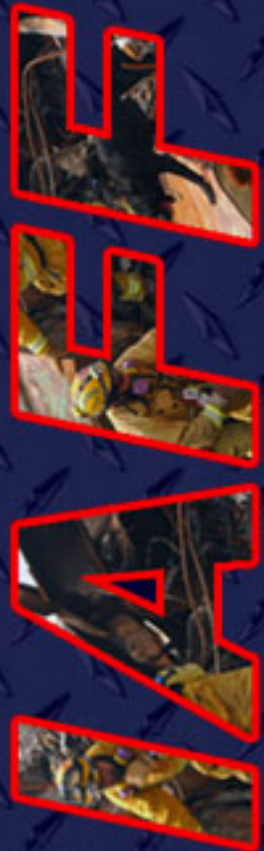


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IMS Model



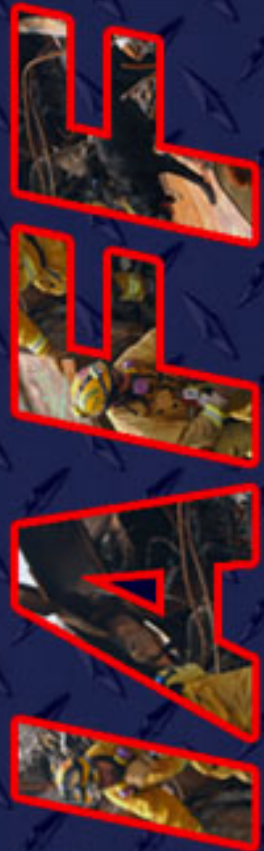
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Elements of an Incident Management System

The command function centers on over-all scene management. Included within command function responsibilities are

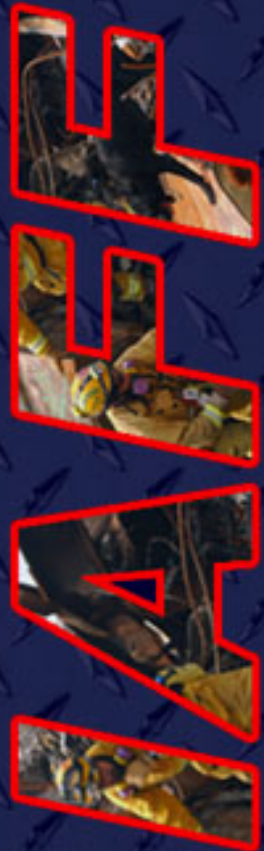
- Development of incident priorities:
 - Size-up
 - Strategy
 - Tactical objectives
 - Overall coordination
 - Incident Stabilization
 - Termination
 - Single versus Unified Command structure



Incident Commander Responsibilities

- **Tactical Operations:** Implementation of tactics and strategies; the forward command and control of accomplishing the mission - How things get done!
- **Safety:** Oversees all aspects of occupational safety and health and personnel accountability
- **Liaison:** Dealing and working with outside agencies
- **Public Information:** Incident related information released to the media, public

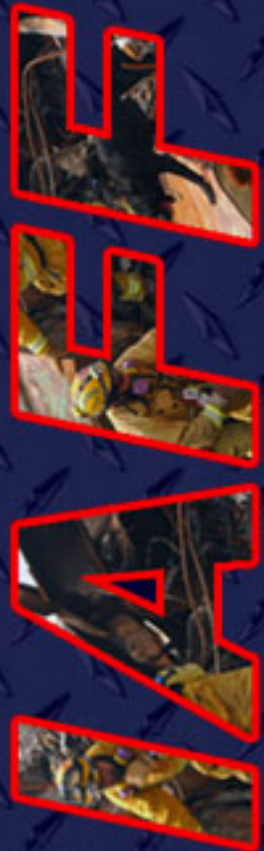
All performed initially by the IC until a “Span of control decision” is made to begin subdividing the command work load.



General Staff Responsibilities

Assignments are routinely assigned as individuals or sections during complex and dynamic incidents:

- **Tactical Operations Section:** IC establishes a forward command for more hands on command and control to accomplish fulfillment of the IC's action plan
- **Planning Section:** Disseminates incident related information/reports related to real time/future decision making

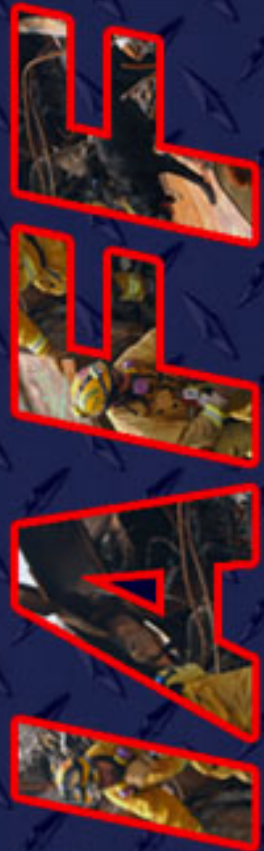


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General Staff Responsibilities

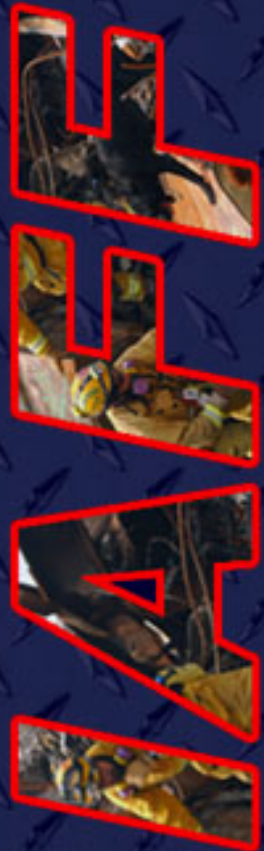
- **Logistics Section:** Assures and all staffing, equipment and related supplies are available to supplant a mission
- **Finance Section:** Tracks and memorializes all costs associated with an incidents





Incident Management Terminology

- **Single Command:** Single agency has sole jurisdiction over an incident
- **Unified Command:** Single command made up of multiple agencies operating on a single plan of action
- **Command Post:** Location of the Incident Command Staff
- **Staging:** Designated areas where personnel, equipment, resources await deployment
- **Span of Control :** Ratio of supervisors to workers

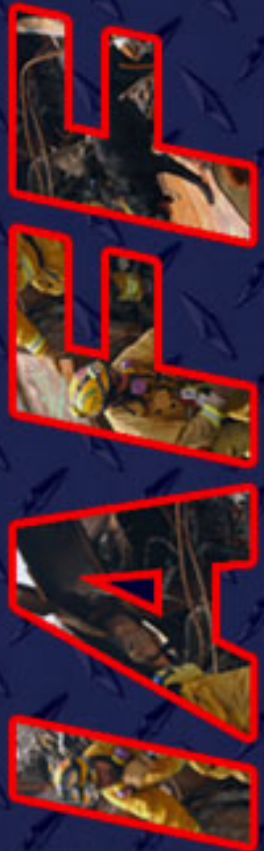
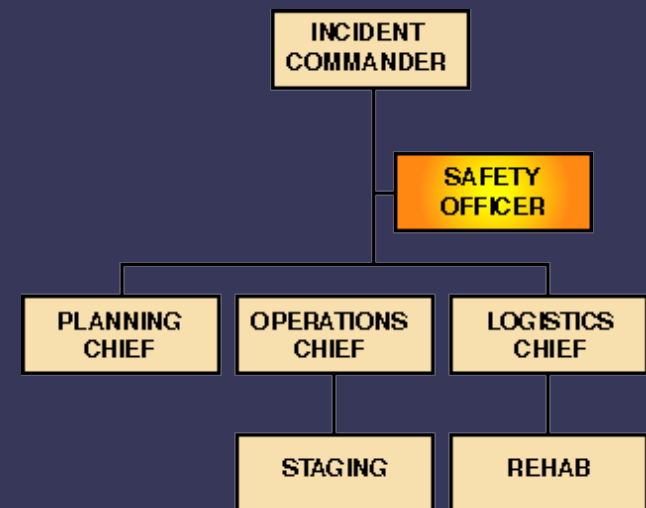


Incident Management Terminology

- **Divisions:** Perform tactical objectives / tasks in a geographic area of operation
- **Groups:** Specific tasks without restriction to a geographic area
- **Strike Teams:** Resources assigned by specific function
- **Task Forces:** Combinations of resources however varied in function
- **Branches:** Inter-agency operational divisions / groups

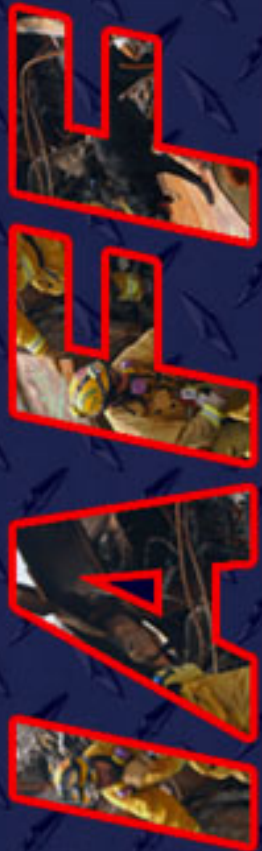
Safety Officer

- Individual assigned and dedicated to maintain a safe worksite throughout the incident.
- Has the authority to suspend operations as a result of safety infractions.



Safety Officer Responsibilities

- Advises Incident Manager regarding all aspects of safety impacting responders.
- Patrols in and around hazard area identifying, correcting, unsafe conditions and work practices.
- Determines PPE Levels consistent with expected hazards.

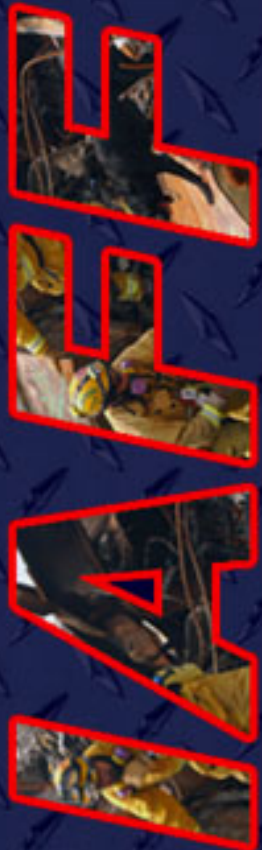


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SSP Emergency Incident Responsibilities

Checking in:

- Approach the first firefighter or police officer you come into contact with
- Identify yourself, the reason your were summoned and by whom
 - SSP's should carry a picture ID
- Make your way to the Staging Area or Command post for introductions / briefings

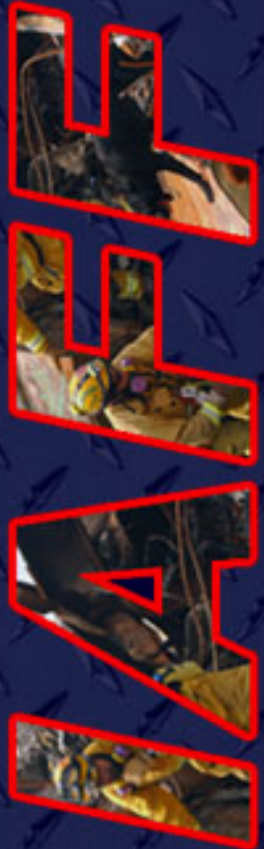


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The Process

Upon arrival at the CP you will be:

- Briefed on emergency scene needs
- Begin the process of your “give and take” consulting
- Assigned an SSP Liaison
- Put to work, assigned to a staging area or kept at the CP



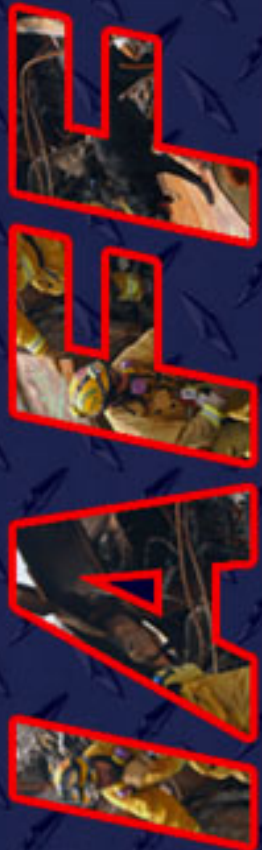
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The “Give and Take” of your work.

Why you have been summoned:

- SSP's are called to emergency scenes to offer guidance and or perform highly specialized tasks that often exceed a fire and rescue department's capabilities.
- SSP's are encouraged to share ideas, observations, and expertise on how to employ your equipment and services towards a better outcome.
- At the same time you must recognize and adhere to the IC's action plan for mitigating the incident or particular set of circumstances.

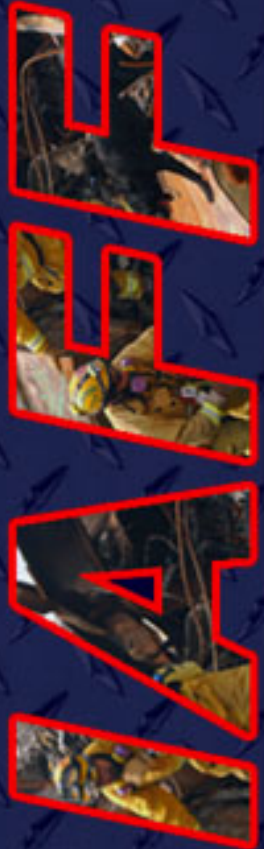
***Consider yourself an integral part of
the emergency response team!***



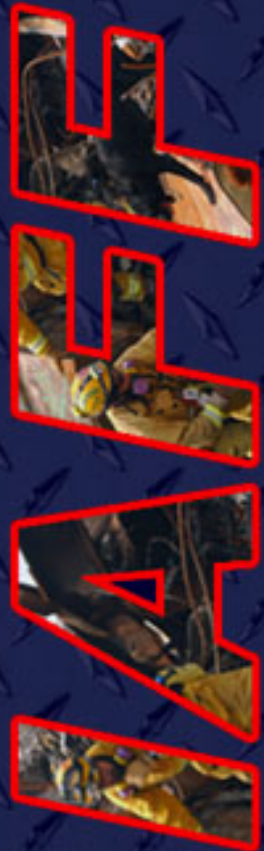
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SSP Liaison

- You will be assigned a Liaison upon your arrival at an emergency scene that will remain at your side as an escort, guide and intermediary with other emergency workers, agencies and to the scene.
- It is imperative that you work with and through this individual as they are your primary contact with all aspects of the emergency operation.



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SSP Liaison Functions

- Assuring your input is considered by the IC, maintain chain of command
- Assuring you are fully briefed on the role you will play
- Assuring compliance with scene health and safety requirements
- Escorting you to and from the forward operational area if required

SSP Safe Work Practices

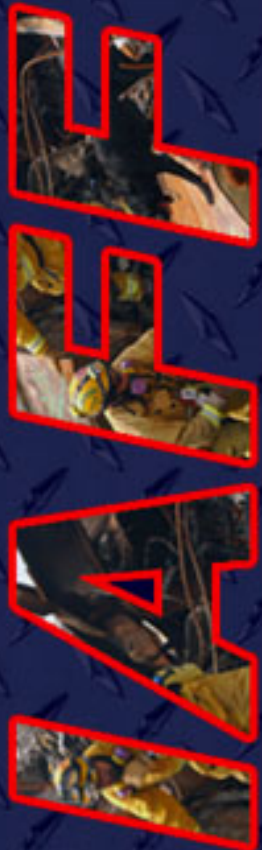
In many cases SSP's will be subjected to the very same physical and environmental hazards as emergency responders.

This may include but is in no way limited to:

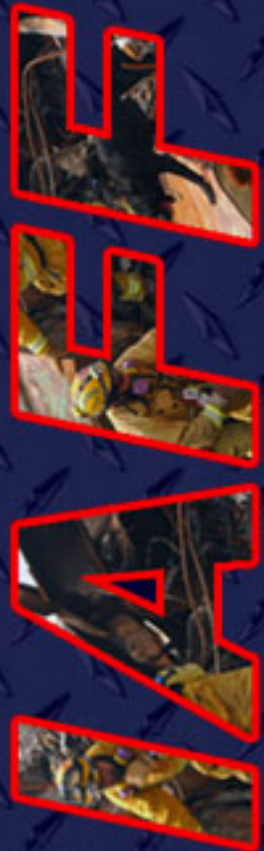
- All types of HazMats including airborne particulate matter
- Chemical, biological, WMD agents
- All manner of physical hazards associated with structural collapse



SSP safety is not less important than that of anyone else!



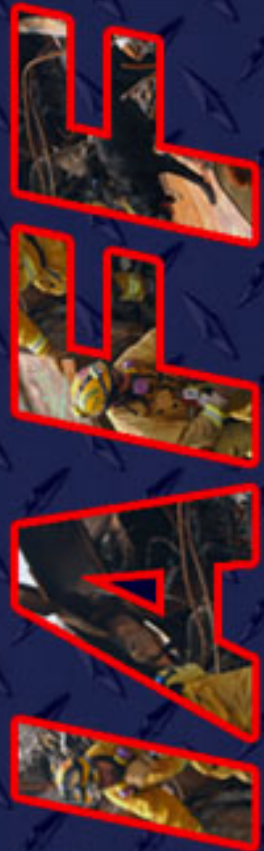
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Personal Protective Equipment

- In routine cases SSP's will be required to employ various forms of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). These determinations will be made by the fire departments on-scene Safety Officer.
- OSHA regulations demand that all personnel cooperate with directives concerning workplace safety and equipment concerns.
- The primary purpose of PPE is to protect routes of entry and physical hazards.

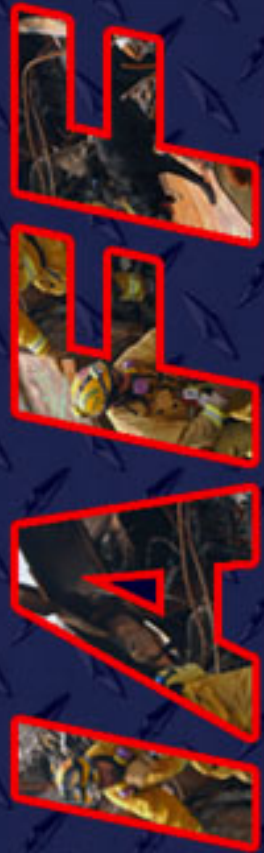
It's a matter of life and death!



Emergency Scene PPE

- Head protection: Helmets w / chin straps
- Eye/face protection: Most often encapsulating type
- Full body protection: Coats, pants, jumpsuits, fully encapsulating garments
- Class II / III Harnesses: Fall arrest protection
- Respiratory systems: Self contained air supplies (SCBA/SAR), and cartridge air purifying respirators (APR),



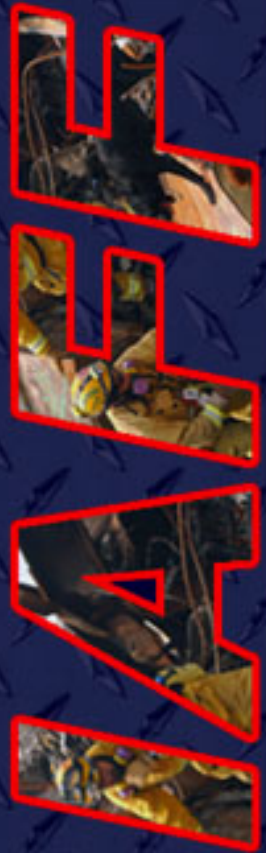


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Emergency Scene Hazards

- Unstable Structure / terrain
- Airborne particulate matter
- Impact from falling or flying debris
- Ambient, radiant temperature
- Falls, slips, strains, sprains
- Sharp, abrasive objects
- Weather conditions
- Noise





Decontamination

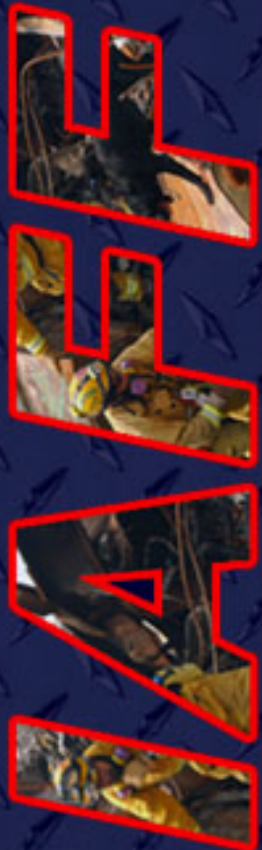
- Whenever personnel may be exposed or contaminated by hazardous substances decontamination should be done before leaving the operational area.
- Decontamination is the process of removing or neutralizing contaminants that collect on personnel and equipment.
- Appropriate decon will be established by the Safety Officer determines it is necessary.

It's another matter of life and death!

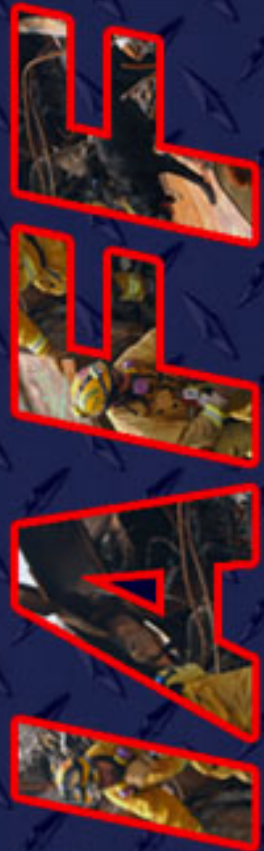


Exposure Reporting

- OSHA regulations require a hard copy reporting system be established for recording worker exposures.
- You need to participate in this program
- Establishes permanent record of your exposure
- Triggers short and long medical monitoring and care
- Provides basis for medical insurance, Worker's Comp and pension claims

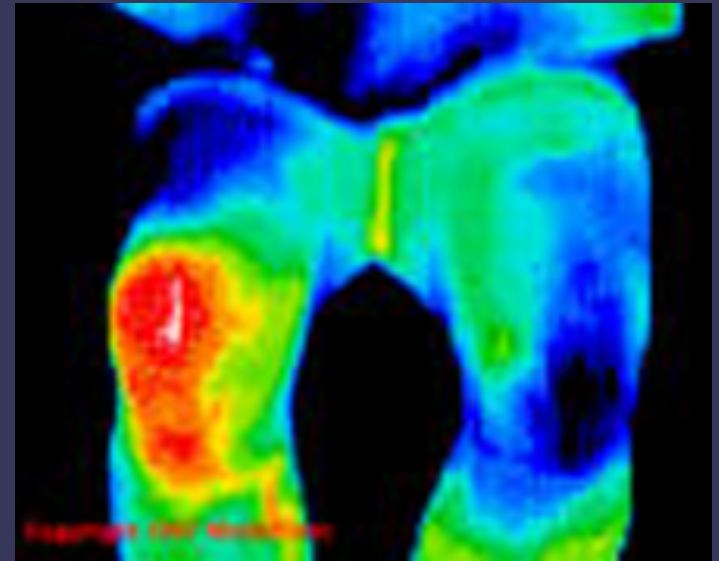


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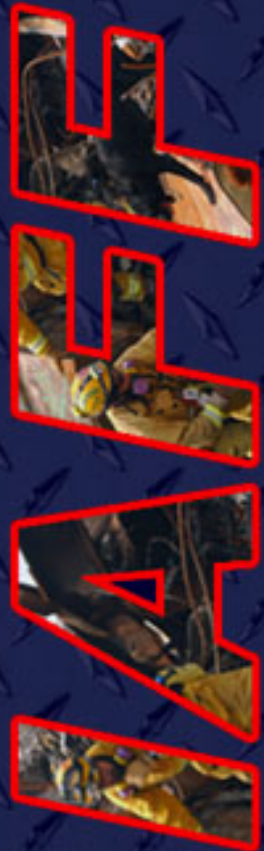


Medical Monitoring

- OSHA regulations require employers provide medical monitoring when workers experience significant exposures to hazardous substances in the course of their work.
- Often triggered by information derived from participation in the Exposure Reporting System.
- Early proactive medical intervention is key to your short and long term health and safety.



Just one more matter of life and death!



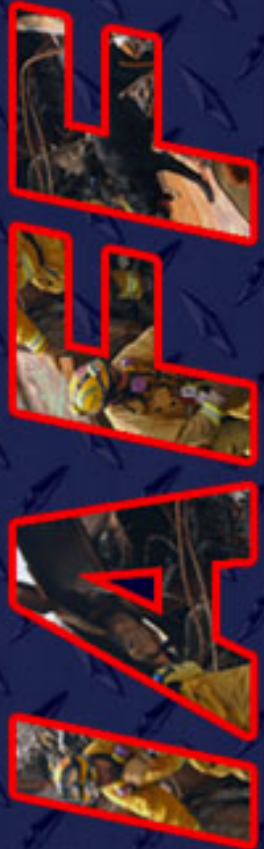
Leaving The Scene

- Upon completion of your duties:
 - Ensure your services are no longer required.
 - Interface with the SSP Liaison to ensure that the incident's accountability control records that you have left the scene.

Skilled Support Worker Training Program

THE END

Questions / Comments



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